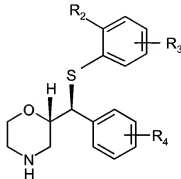


Amendments to the Claims

1. (canceled).
2. (canceled).
3. (canceled).
4. (currently amended): A compound of ~~claim 1, represented by~~ formula (II):



(II)

wherein:

R₂ and R₃ are each independently selected from H, C₁-C₄ alkyl, O(C₁-C₄ alkyl), S(C₁-C₄ alkyl), halo, and phenyl; and

R₄ is selected from H and C₁-C₄ alkyl;

wherein each above-mentioned C₁-C₄ alkyl group is optionally substituted with one or more halo atoms;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

5. (currently amended): The A compound of claim 4, wherein R₂ is selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, O(C₁-C₄ alkyl), F, and Ph,

wherein each above-mentioned C₁-C₄ alkyl group is optionally substituted with one or more halo atoms.

6. (currently amended): The A compound of claim 4, wherein R₃ is hydrogen.

7. (currently amended): The A compound of claim 4, wherein R₄ is hydrogen.

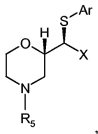
Claims 8-17 (canceled).

18. (previously presented): A composition, comprising a compound of claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, excipient, or carrier.

19. (new): The compound of claim 4 where R_2 is trifluoromethyl, methoxy, trifluoromethoxy, F, or phenyl.

20. (new): The compound of claim 4 where R_3 is F.

21. (new): A method of preparing a compound of the following formula



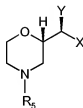
wherein:

R_5 is a protecting group;

X is optionally substituted phenyl; and

Ar is optionally substituted phenyl;

comprising reacting a compound of the formula



wherein:

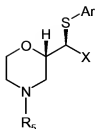
R_5 is a protecting group;

X is optionally substituted phenyl;

and Y is a leaving group; with an aryl thiol.

22. (new): A method of preparing a compound of claim 4, comprising deprotecting a compound of the following formula:

-6-



wherein:

R_5 is a protecting group;

X is optionally substituted phenyl; and

Ar is optionally substituted phenyl; to provide a compound of claim 4, optionally followed by the step of forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

-6-